REPORT

DATE: August 22, 2005

TO: Regional Comprehensive Plan Task Force

FROM: Jacob Lieb, Acting Lead Regional Planner, (213) 236-1921, <u>lieb@scag.ca.gov</u>

SUBJECT: Preliminary Draft Land Use and Housing Chapter

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Recommend that the Community, Economic and Human Development Committee (CEHD) release the Preliminary Draft Land Use and Housing Chapter for public review. Approve the process described below for making refinements to the chapter.

SUMMARY:

On January 18, 2005, the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) Task Force gave instructions to staff on the completion of a Draft Land Use and Housing Chapter. A subsequent report to the CEHD Committee was made in March 2005. Staff has prepared a preliminary draft for the Task Force's consideration at this time. Further, staff is proposing additional steps to make refinements to the Chapter consistent with previous Task Force discussions.

BACKGROUND:

The Regional Comprehensive Plan incorporates all applicable, current policies of the Regional Council, and develops an action plan for implementation by outside entities. Over the last year, staff, under the direction of the RCP Task Force, has developed a preliminary draft of the Land Use and Housing Chapter.

At this time, the chapter should not be considered final. Rather, it includes the two key sections developed during the first year of the planning process. Pending approval by the Task Force and the CEHD, staff will release this preliminary draft to the public, and undertake further activities to refine and complete the Chapter.

As discussed with the Task Force at the April and May 2005 meetings, the current (2005-2006) fiscal year effort will focus on the crafting of performance outcomes for each chapter. These outcomes should have the following features:

- Consistent with Federal and State legal requirements, at a minimum (can be more rigorous, but not less)
- Fully incorporates plans prepared by responsible agencies
- Can be measured at intermediate stages
- Can be adapted to be used as significance thresholds in environmental analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act.

For the Land Use and Housing Chapter, this process, as proposed by staff, will be coorinated with the ongoing 2% Strategy Implementation process, which includes its own performance measurement component. The procedure for developing plan outcomes will include a review of applicable State and regional plans,



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direct outreach to agencies with policy and regulatory authority, and dialogue to mediate various plan provisions.

Attachment: Preliminary Draft Land Use and Housing Chapter



Land Use Policies

SourceDocument	id	Policy		Туре
EIR				
	185	of the Growt policies in th	fire threats in the region as part h Visioning process and as e update of SCAG's Regional sive Plan and Guide.	Mitigation
	Transportation	on 🔲	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		Water	
	Housing	✓	Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	Economy	V	Other	
	165	voluntary cu operations, a and physical vehicles, wh	airport sponsors to implement rfews, changes in aircraft adjacent land use compatibility, I noise buffers for aircraft and ere appropriate and feasible, to ise impacts of aviation activities.	Mitigation
	✓ Transportation	on	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		Water	
	Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	Economy		Other	
	181	Promote wa developmen	ter-efficient land use t.	Mitigation
	Transportati	on _	Energy	
	✓ Land Use	✓	Water	
	Housing	✓	Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	Economy		Other	
	184	vegetation a chaparral in	the use of fire-resistant and the elimination of brush and the immediate vicinity of at in areas with high fire threat.	Mitigation
	Transportati	on _] Energy	
	✓ Land Use] Water	
	Housing	V	Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	Economy	✓	Other	

SourceDocument	id	Policy	Туре
		establish transfer of development rights (TDR) programs to direct growth to less agriculturally valuable lands (while considering the potential effects at the sites receiving the transfer) and ensure the continued protection of the most agriculturally valuable land within each county through the purchase of the development rights for these lands.	Mitigation
	✓ Housing	Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality	Solid Waste	
	Economy	✓ Other	
	150	Encourage implementation agencies to avoid the premature conversion of farmlands by promoting infill development and the continuation of agricultural uses until urban development is imminent; if development of agricultural lands is necessary, growth should be directed to those lands on which the continued viability of agricultural production has been compromised by surrounding urban development or the loss of local markets.	Mitigation
	Transportati	on Energy	
	✓ Land Use	Water	
	✓ Housing	Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality	Solid Waste	
	Economy	⊘ Other	
	151	Encourage implementation agencies to obtain assistance from the American Farmland Trust in developing and implementing farmland conservation measures.	Mitigation
	Transportat	ion Energy	
	✓ Land Use	☐ Water	
	Housing	✓ Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality	Solid Waste	
	Economy	Other	
	152	Future impacts to open space and recreation lands shall be avoided through cooperation, information sharing, and program development during the update of the Open Space and Conservation chapter of SCAG's Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide and through SCAG's Energy and Environment Committee.	Mitigation
	Transportat	ion Energy	
	✓ Land Use	Water	
	Housing	✓ Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality	Solid Waste	
	Economy	Other	

SourceDocument	id	Policy		Туре
	154	trails and regionally support r encourage and othe	ge member jurisdictions that have trail segments determined to be y significant to work together to egional trail networks. SCAG shall go joint use of utility, transportation r rights-of-way, greenbelts, and ity areas.	Mitigation
	✓ Transportati	on	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		Water	
	Housing		✓ Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	Economy		✓ Other	
	155	allowed a encourage some inv provide in	ge that multiple use of spaces be as feasible and practical, and ge redevelopment activities to focus restment on recreation uses so as to more opportunities for access to ace close to the urban core.	Mitigation
	Transportat	ion	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		☐ Water	
	Housing		✓ Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	Economy		✓ Other	
	158	help ens	th its member cities and counties to sure that transportation projects and are consistent with the RTP and plans.	Mitigation
	✓ Transporta	tion	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		☐ Water	
•	Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality	,	Solid Waste	
	Economy		✓ Other	
	160	the forth build a c changes populati	AG's Growth Visioning program and accoming Regional Growth Vision to consensus in the region to support in land use to accommodate future ion growth while maintaining the of life in the region.	Mitigation
	Transporta	tion	Energy	
	Land Use		Water	
	Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality	y	Solid Waste	
	✓ Economy		✓ Other	
	15	partners recreati necess	age member jurisdictions to work as s to address regional outdoor on needs and to acquire the ary funding for the implementation of ans and programs.	Mitigation
	Transporta	ition	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		Water	
	Housing		✓ Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Qualit	у	Solid Waste	
	Economy		✓ Other	

SourceDocument	id	Policy	Type	
		Work with member agencies to implement growth strategies to create an urban form designed to utilize the existing transportation improvements contained in the 2004 RTI enhancing mobility and reducing land consumption.	n ation	
	✓ Transportation	_		
	✓ Land Use	Water		
	Housing	Habitat and Open Space		
	Air Quality	Solid Waste		
	Economy	Other		
	159	Work with cities and counties to ensure to general plans reflect RTP policies. SCA will work to build consensus on how to address inconsistencies between general plans and RTP policies.	G	
	Transportati	on Energy		
	Land Use	☐ Water		
	Housing	Habitat and Open Space		
	Air Quality	Solid Waste		
	Economy	✓ Other		
Growth Visi				
	58	Foster livability in all communities	Goal	
	Transportati	on Energy		
	✓ Land Use	☐ Water		
	Housing	Habitat and Open Space		
	Air Quality	Solid Waste		
	Economy	✓ Other		
	78	Create a region with many centers.	Goal	
	Transportat	on Energy		
	Land Use	☐ Water		
	Housing	Habitat and Open Space		
	Air Quality	Solid Waste		
	Economy	✓ Other		
	69	Promote sustainability for future genera	tions Goal	
	Transportat	ion Energy		
	✓ Land Use	☐ Water		
	Housing	Habitat and Open Space		
	Air Quality	Solid Waste		
	Economy	✓ Other		
	53	Improve mobility for all residents	Goal	
	Transportat	ion Energy		
	✓ Land Use	☐ Water		
	Housing	Habitat and Open Space		
	Air Quality	Solid Waste		
	Economy	✓ Other		

SourceDocument		id	Policy		Туре
				al, agricultural, recreational, and	Policy
	Transp			ally sensitive areas. Energy	
	✓ Land U			Water	
	Housin				
	Air Qu	-		Solid Waste	
	Econor	-		Other	
			Promote a v	ariety of travel choices.	Policy
	✓ Transp	ortati	on _	Energy	
	✓ Land U	Jse		Water	
	Housin	ng		Habitat and Open Space	
	☐ Air Qu	ality		Solid Waste	
	Econo	my	V	Other	
		79	Encourage	nvestment in transit.	Policy
	✓ Transp	ortati	on 🔽	Energy	
	✓ Land I	Use		Water	
	Mousin	ng		Habitat and Open Space	
	🗹 Air Qı	uality		Solid Waste	
	✓ Econo	my	~	Other	
		54		transportation investments and cisions that are mutually	Policy
	✓ Transp	ortati	on [Energy	
	✓ Land	Use		Water	
	Housi	ng		Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Qu	uality		Solid Waste	
	Econo	my		Other	
		67		al and state fiscal policies that balanced growth.	Policy
	Trans	portati	on	Energy	
	✓ Land	Use		Water	
	Housi	ng		Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Q			Solid Waste	
	✓ Econo		Y		
		60	Promote de uses.	evelopment that provides a mix of	Position
	Trans	portat	ion	Energy	
	✓ Land	Use		Water	
	Housi	ing		Habitat and Open Space	
	☐ Air Q	uality		Solid Waste	
	Econo	omy	· ·	• Other	

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SourceDocument		id	Policy		Туре
	***			ucational opportunities that lanced growth.	Principle
	Tt	ransportatio	n [Energy	
	✓ La	and Use		Water	
	H	lousing		Habitat and Open Space	
	A	ir Quality		Solid Waste	
	▼ E	conomy	3	Other	
				v housing near existing jobs and ear existing housing.	Principle
	T	ransportation	on [Energy	
	✓ L	and Use		Water	
	✓ H	Iousing		Habitat and Open Space	
	A	ir Quality		Solid Waste	
	✓ E	Conomy		⊘ Other	
		56	Encourage	transit-oriented development.	Principle
	▼ T	ransportation	on [Energy	
	✓ L	and Use	[Water	
	✓ H	Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	✓ A	Air Quality	[Solid Waste	
	E	Economy		⊘ Other	
		81	such as st	nsitive environmental features eep slopes, wetlands, and stream rom development.	Principle
	T	Fransportati	on [Energy	
	🗸 I	Land Use	[Water	
	F	Housing	[✓ Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality	[Solid Waste	
	E	Economy	[✓ Other	
		61	Promote "communiti	people-scaled", walkable es.	Principle
	y 7	Transportati	on [Energy	
	✓ I	Land Use	[Water	
		Housing	İ	Habitat and Open Space	
	✓	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
		Economy		✓ Other	
		62		ne preservation of stable, single- ghborhoods.	Principle
		Transportat	ion	Energy	
	v	Land Use		☐ Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality		Solid Waste	
		Economy		✓ Other	

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SourceDocument		id	Policy		Type
		71	Focus development	velopment in urban centers and ties.	Principle
		Transportati	on	Energy	
	Y	Land Use		Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality		Solid Waste	
		Economy		✓ Other	
		72	that use re	strategies to accommodate growth esources efficiently, eliminate and significantly reduce waste.	Principle
	Y	Transportati	ion	✓ Energy	
	Y	Land Use		✓ Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	\checkmark	Air Quality		✓ Solid Waste	
		Economy		✓ Other	
		59		infill development and oment to revitalize existing ties.	Strategy
		Transportati	ion	Energy	
	V	Land Use		☐ Water	
	Y	Housing		✓ Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	V	Economy		✓ Other	
		82	focused of	compact, centers- and corridors- development, mixed-use, and transit- development.	Strategy
	V	Transportat	ion	Energy	
	Y	Land Use		Water	
	V	Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	¥	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
] Economy		✓ Other	
		80		eavy trip generating development in h robust existing transportation ture.	Strategy
	V	Transportat	ion	Energy	
	Y	Land Use		Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality		Solid Waste	
		Economy		✓ Other	

Legislative Positions

SourceDocument	id	Policy		Туре
	189 ✓ Transportati	housing plannir a) achieve a hig and air quality p b) improve hou affordability c) provide for p accountability r governments ar	sing availability and erformance and neasurements for local	Policy
	✓ Land Use	□ w	ater ater	
	✓ Housing	□н	abitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		olid Waste	
	Economy	□ o	ther	
Resolutions	142		ontinued operations of all s in the SCAG region.	Position
	Transportat	ion E	nergy	
	✓ Land Use	<i>□ W</i>	/ater	
	Housing	H	abitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		olid Waste	
	Economy	O	ther	
RTP	5		d use and growth patterns that ur transportation investments.	Goal
	Transportat	ion E	nergy	
	✓ Land Use	v	Vater	
	Housing	H	abitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality	_	olid Waste	
	Economy	✓ 0	other	
		transportation	•	Goal
	Transportat	ion E	nergy	
	✓ Land Use		Vater	
	✓ Housing	_	labitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality	□ s	olid Waste	
	Economy		Other	
	1		ility and accessibility for all ods in the region.	Goal
	✓ Transportat	ion 🗌 E	inergy	
	✓ Land Use	v	Vater	
	Housing	F	labitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		olid Waste	
	Economy	✓ 0	Other	

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SourceDocument		id	Policy		Type
				vth along transit corridors and tilize available capacity.	Policy
	Y	Transportation	on [Energy	
	\checkmark	Land Use		Water	
	V	Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	V	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
		Economy		Other	
		46	developme created by	regional capture of economic ent opportunities and job growth the prospect of significant r traffic growth between now and	Policy
	Y	Transportati	on [Energy	
	V	Land Use		Water	
		Housing	[Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality	[Solid Waste	
	Y	Economy	[Other	
		49	the obligat	at each county should have both ion and the opportunity to meet its ffic needs where feasible.	Policy
	V	Transportati	on [Energy	
	V	Land Use	[Water	
		Housing	[Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality	[Solid Waste	
		Economy	[Other	
		51	consider t	fects of expanding airports and ne reuse of former military airfields mmunity impacts are minimized.	Policy
	Y	Transportati	ion [Energy	
	Y	Land Use	1	Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality		Solid Waste	
		Economy		✓ Other	
		52		air passenger and air cargo of outlying airports in less- areas.	Policy
	Y	Transportat	ion	Energy	
	✓	Land Use		Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality		Solid Waste	
		Economy		✓ Other	

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50	urceDocument	id	Policy		Туре
		8	differ from c require a co program tha	ee and growth strategies that urrently expected trends will llaborative implementation t identifies required actions and all affected agencies and sub-	Policy
		Transportat	ion] Energy	
		✓ Land Use		Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality		Solid Waste	
		Economy	V	Other	
-		33	Prioritize prosecurity.	ojects that enhance safety and	Policy
		✓ Transportat	ion	Energy	
		✓ Land Use		Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality	_	Solid Waste	
		Economy	¥	Other	
		50	and potentia	pacity expansion at major existing at airports to handle anticipated a passengers and cargo volume.	Position
		▼ Transportar	tion	Energy	
		✓ Land Use		Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Quality	,	Solid Waste	
		Economy	V	• Other	
		48	and local q	ironmental, environmental justice, uality of life constraints at existing t operate in built-out urban hts.	Principle
		✓ Transporta	tion	Energy	
		✓ Land Use		Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
		✓ Air Quality	,	Solid Waste	
		Economy	N	⊘ Other	
		4:	2 Prioritize tr land use go	ansportation projects that support pals.	Principle
		✓ Transporta	tion	Energy	
		✓ Land Use		Water	
		Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Qualit	у [Solid Waste	
		Economy	•	⊘ Other	
		1		pansion is no longer the primary ion investment strategy to provide nobility.	Strategy
		✓ Transporta	ation [Energy	
		✓ Land Use		Water	
		✓ Housing	[Habitat and Open Space	
		Air Qualit	у [Solid Waste	
		Economy	[Other	

SourceDocument	id	Policy		Type
	25		where appropriate to revitalize zed development sites.	Strategy
	Transportati	on	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		Water	
	✓ Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	Economy		✓ Other	
	41	2001 RTF	long-range study corridors from the in high-demand and/or high-eas, based upon the findings of the ocess.	Strategy
	▼ Transportat	ion	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		Water	
	Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	✓ Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	Economy		Other	
	29	Ensure a	dequate access to open space.	Strategy
	Transportat	ion	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		Water	
	Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	Economy		Other	
	31	implemei transport	and use to correspond to the nation of regionally significant major ation projects and their consequent long-term job creation effects.	Strategy
	✓ Transportat	ion	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		Water	
	Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality		Solid Waste	
	✓ Economy		Other	
	24	transport expansion pedestriate environm that pron	proposed funding for non-motorized ation to implement bikeway on projects, create a bicycle- and an-friendly transportation nent, induce mixed-use development notes biking and walking, and public safety education for bicyclists estrians.	Strategy
	✓ Transporta	tion	Energy	
	✓ Land Use		Water	
	✓ Housing		Habitat and Open Space	
	✓ Air Quality	•	Solid Waste	
	Economy		✓ Other	

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SourceDocument	id	Policy	Туре
	32	Incorporate the local input and feedback on future growth received from 90 percent of the jurisdictions in the SCAG region.	Strategy
	Transportati	on Energy	
	Land Use	Water	
	✓ Housing	Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality	Solid Waste	
	Economy	✓ Other	
	30	Change land use to correspond to the implementation of a decentralized regional aviation strategy and its consequent shortand long-term job creation effects.	Strategy
	✓ Transportati	on Energy	
	✓ Land Use	☐ Water	
	Housing	Habitat and Open Space	
	Air Quality	Solid Waste	
	Economy	Other	

2005/06 SCAG RCP

Preliminary Draft Action Plan for Land Use and Housing Chapter

INTRODUCTION

The action plan for Land Use and Housing identifies policy and practice that SCAG endorses for external parties and for itself. While the actions included here are advisory, SCAG will refer to its recommended practices in administering Inter-Governmental Review as authorized by CEQA. The action plan includes items identified as mitigation in the Program Environmental Impact Report for the 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

The action plan, as with other RCP chapters, is organized according to the party that is intended to carry out the action. As such, there is a section for recommendations for the Federal Government, State Government, SCAG and other regional agencies, and local government. The action plan is further organized by distinguishing actions that are critical to implementing SCAG's regional growth vision and those which are presented as advisable practices.

Critical Path actions/Implementing the Vision – The Regional Council has created a clear set of objectives and goals related to land use and development in Southern California. In large part, these goals are formalized by the adoption of the Compass Growth Vision in 2004. Further, many of the assumptions of the vision were included as specific land use measures in the 2004 Regional Transportation Plan. Therefore, the region must pursue implementation of its growth vision, not only to ensure quality of life and sustainability, but also to ensure the viability of the RTP and its associated EIR and Air Quality Plan.

The vision for future growth and development is described in full in the Policy section of this chapter. Reviewed briefly here, the vision calls for acceleration of growth in key strategic areas. These areas are identified as specific locations around the region. These areas are defined by their characteristics which are as follows:

- 1. They are along major corridors which are, or can be well served by transit, or
- 2. They are regional or sub-regional centers (e.g. downtowns), or
- 3. They are aligned with major infrastructure or regional facilities.

These locations are termed 2% Strategy opportunity areas, in that the land mass where change in growth and development is required comprises 2% of the region's urbanized area. The action plan identifies a set of actions for communities that have a 2% Area identified within their boundaries. Other actions are specified as general practice for all jurisdictions in the region.

The region will achieve demonstrable benefits from the implementation of the land use measures identified in this plan. Those benefits include improved mobility, air quality, and regional competitiveness. The rationale for the measures included here is also described in details the Policy and Existing Conditions sections of this chapter. SCAG

also believes that the benefits of pursuing the implementations actions described here will accrue to the local level, in particular, because there are a variety of tools that can be adapted to local conditions and local objectives.

The "Existing Conditions" section describes barriers to the types of growth and development described in the Growth Vision. Briefly reviewed here, these barriers are:

- 1. Lack of adequate, predictable revenues streams at the local government level combined with,
- 2. aging and inadequate infrastructure in older, urban communities.
- 3. Planning practice that is ad-hoc and reactive rather than broad and proactive.
- 4. Lack of knowledge and expertise regarding the benefits of in-fill and urban development.
- 5. NIMBYism.

The actions described here as "critical path" are those specifically intended to remove or ameliorate these barriers in the locations where growth should occur.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Actions for the State of California

- 1. SCAG strongly encourages the State to improve the municipal finance structure affecting virtually all local governments in California. Reforms should be developed with two clear goals:
- Ensure the reliability of revenue streams to local government such that local finances are not the first resort in difficult budget years.
- Ameliorate the incentives inherent in the current fiscal system, which promote inefficient land uses. (Policy Reference:67)
- 2. SCAG strongly encourages the State to continue reforms of the Housing Element and housing allocation processes. These reforms should promote the broad goals stated by the Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing and shared by SCAG:
- Each municipality has a clear responsibility to provide housing based on the growth in population and jobs generated in the community.
- Jurisdictions should be able to collaborate in meeting housing needs.
- Planning for housing should be pursued over a longer time frame in line with other major growth planning efforts. (Policy Reference: 189)
- 3. The State should address the confusing, and often conflicting growth policies and plans performed by various State agencies. (Policy Reference: 189)
- 4. The State should elevate the role of regional growth planning such that the growth forecast prepared for the RTP is used for various State planning and resource allocation functions. (Policy Reference: 189)

Actions for SCAG

SCAG will continue its 2% Strategy effort in order to ensure that the land use policy changes envisioned in Compass are implemented. SCAG will continue to refine land use measures in its current and future RTP planning processes. (Policy Reference: 159, 160, 161)

SCAG will advocate for legislative changes as described above under State actions. (PR New)

SCAG will continue and expand on-going programming to educate elected officials and the public regarding the benefits of appropriate growth and development, and of affordable housing. (Policy Reference: 159, 160, 161)

SCAG will continue activities to ensure completion of mitigation measures identified in the 2004 RTP EIR. Those measures related to land use and housing are listed in the policy section of this chapter. (Policy Reference: 159, 160, 161)

SCAG will engage a study to explore ways that portions of the benefit derived from public reinvestment or land use policy actions can be recaptured to fund public needs. (Policy Reference New)

Actions for Cities and Counties

Critical Path Action - Implementing 2% Strategy

Jurisdictions that have within their boundaries an area identified in the 2% Strategy as critical to the region's growth and development are urged to take all necessary steps to maximize the opportunity for the envisioned growth to occur. This plan identifies a number of tools communities can use in combination to reach their development potential. An attached matrix (Attachment 1) records the steps that jurisdictions are encouraged to take given the specific type of growth opportunity area that exists.

Beyond considering the individual actions described here, communities with 2% Strategy Areas are encouraged to work with SCAG in developing and implementing an overall growth strategy for the affected areas.

The following are advisable actions or tools for use in all jurisdictions:

General Considerations

Planning at the local level occurs along a continuum from the most broad – the General Plan – to the most specific – individual project level approvals. This action plan contains recommendations for approaches to a range of planning, regulatory, environmental, and financial activity. In approaching the whole range of activities, SCAG encourages

localities to focus their efforts on the broadest, most generalized level possible. Ideally, communities should use the General Plan process to set the course for future development within the jurisdiction. Among planning procedures, the General Plan should have the greatest degree of community participation. Each successive level of activity, including zoning, neighborhood planning, specific planning, and permitting should become increasingly specific in defining the community's desire for development types and locations. A community that successfully defines its goals and strategies in the broader policy documents should be able to ease the project permitting process by retaining less discretion at that level.

Often, however, communities are unable to dedicate the time and resources to undertake a full General Plan update. While this action plan strongly urges jurisdictions to maintain an up to date General Plan, it also recognizes these real world limitations. As such, the underlying assumption of this recommendation is that a community should concentrate its efforts on the broadest level planning that it is able to undertake.

Jurisdictions should endeavor to maximize community involvement in broad scale planning process such as the General Plan or specific plan. Residents of communities should feel that their concerns have been duly considered in these planning processes such that community members may support individual projects consistent with the community's broad goals, and opposition to individual projects is lessened. (Policy Reference 159)

Policy Actions

General Plan

Municipalities are encouraged to keep the State mandated General Plan up-to-date. Communities are encouraged to take a comprehensive approach to updating the General Plan. In particular, SCAG advises communities to ensure that infrastructure assumptions described in the circulation element are supportive of the community's development goals described in the land use and housing elements. Community's are encouraged consider the regional setting in determining their own development goals and are strongly encouraged to submit the General Plan and General Plan elements to SCAG under the Inter-Governmental Review Program. (Policy Reference 159)

Housing Element

As part of complying with State Housing Element requirements, communities are encouraged to assess, on a regular basis, potential sites for the development of affordable housing. Communities should assess the long term needs for housing based on population and employment projections, and identify opportunities within their land use planning to accommodate housing growth. Affordable housing projects should be given consideration when opportunities for infill and redevelopment arise. (Policy Reference 28, 55, 64)

Zoning Ordinance

SCAG advises municipalities to ensure that their zoning ordinance effectively implements the goals of the community and the policies described in the General Plan. SCAG strongly encourages the use of innovative approaches in crafting a zoning ordinance, including Form Based Zoning. Form Based zoning is an approach whereby building types and design specifications are clearly delineated, uses are simplified, and zones are organized by intensity of use, rather than by type of use. In any zoning ordinance, the community should seek to clearly define its intentions for the future of the built environment, such that discretion at the individual project permitting level is limited. (Policy Reference 159, 160, 161)

Specific Plan

Local governments are encouraged to develop specific plans for areas identified, by themselves or by the region, as key growth opportunities. The specific plan can be used to create additional definition regarding the types and intensities of use under the parameters set forth in the General Plan. For example, design considerations can be effectively addressed in a specific plan. Communities should perform an environmental analysis of the specific plan such that can be tiered by individual project proposers. (Policy Reference 159, 160, 161)

Communities preparing a specific plan are strongly encouraged to reference the "Planners Guide to Specific Plans" published by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

Infrastructure planning

Communities are encouraged to undertake comprehensive reviews of their infrastructure needs and balance these needs against available revenues. Specific recommendations on planning around infrastructure needs will be found in the Water, Solid Waste, Energy, and Open Space chapters of this RCP. (Policy Reference 54, 58, 59, 69, 71, 72, 80, 82, 159, 160)

Environmental Actions

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Implementation

CEQA allows local governments to create local implementing ordinances that can set thresholds for environmental impacts at the local level, and can establish clearer expectations for mitigation on various types of projects. Communities are strongly encouraged to adopt a CEQA implementing ordinance. (Policy Reference 58, 69, 70, 81)

Master Environmental Documentation

As described above under "Specific Plan," a community can more effectively promote desired development by producing tiered environmental analysis, as allowed under CEQA. The best case scenario for this type of practice is to perform and certify an environmental review on a neighborhood and specific plan, such that project level implementation does not require additional review. This can greatly reduce the time and cost for development. Communities are encouraged to give full consideration to the environmental and health impacts of plan implementation and to create appropriate mitigation schemes. SCAG considers examination and mitigation of environmental impacts at the plan level to be favorable to the project level. (Policy Reference 58, 69, 70, 81)

Uniform Mitigation

Establishing predictable standards for mitigation of impacts associated with new development is highly recommended. This can be accomplished through a mitigation program, or through pooled mitigation fees on new development.

Two counties in the SCAG region have implemented transportation uniform mitigation fees. These fees are imposed on new development and provide funding for new transportation infrastructure in accordance with the need that new development creates. By creating a uniform fee at the county level, there is no variability in mitigation measures that might otherwise be imposed on individual projects.

Counties that do not have uniform mitigation programs are encouraged to consider them. In so doing, these counties should endeavor to ensure equitable distribute of the funds generated, such that the new development providing the funding is in fact served by new infrastructure. Counties should realistically estimate revenue generated from fee programs such that programming can be sustained through slower building cycles. (Policy Reference 58, 69, 70, 81)

Regulatory Actions

Parking

Parking requirements imposed by localities on various types of development have a profound impact on the viability of potential projects. Communities interested in creating or building mixed use of regional centers are encouraged to give strong consideration to establishing shared parking for residential, commercial and retail uses. There are several successful examples of shared parking programs in the SCAG region, and available planning tools are described in the "resources" section of this chapter.

Additionally, many jurisdictions simply require too much parking for all types of development. Recognizing that high parking requirements increase the cost of development and use substantial amounts of space, communities are strongly encouraged to review their parking requirements. (Policy Reference 61, 82)

Many communities in the SCAG region have effective ordinances that assist in the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites. All jurisdictions, particularly those in the older, more urbanized part of the region, should give strong consideration to the adoption of such an ordinance. Communities are encouraged to reference Brownfields research conducted by SCAG which is described in the "resources" section of this chapter. (Policy Reference 59)

Adaptive Reuse ordinance

Few communities in the SCAG region have adopted ordinances to assist in the conversion of vacant or underutilized properties. SCAG strongly encourages the conversion of aging commercial, office, and some industrial properties to housing and mixed use with housing. The City of Los Angeles produced an effective ordinance that can be used as a model. The Los Angeles ordinance simplifies processing and relaxes some building standards. Further, SCAG produced a research paper on best practices in adaptive reuse. (resources section) (Policy Reference 59)

Mixed use

Communities are encouraged to allow mixed use at various locations. (Policy Reference 60)

Affordable housing incentives

Communities are encouraged to consider adoption of various tools to facilitate the development of lower income/affordable housing. Such tools include:

Density bonus – allows a developer to increase density over what is allowed by zoning if a pre-determined share of units provided are affordable.

Inclusionary zoning — mandates inclusion of affordable units in new housing developing. A community can, within an inclusionary ordinance, specify criteria where the requirement would be triggered, such as projects over a certain size. In some communities, developers are able to pay an "in-lieu" fee into an affordable housing development fund rather than build units.

Parking concessions - allows developers to reduce the required number of parking spaces with new housing that includes and affordable component. (Policy Reference 64)

Finance Actions:

Fee structures

As described above under Uniform Mitigation, local governments can effectively finance some infrastructure and other needs through imposition of fees on development. While this practice is generally advisable, SCAG encourages communities to comprehensively review fee placed on growth and development such that fees do not have the effect of suppressing development, and so that proceeds are applied appropriately. (Policy Reference 58, 69, 70, 81)

Benefit Assessment

Communities are encouraged to explore establishing assessments on property in cases where a local action increases value. For example, if a rezoning to residential causes an increase in property value, the locality can potentially recapture a portion of the value gain for the purpose of funding infrastructure, mitigation, and service needs associated with growth in that location. (Policy Reference 58, 69, 70, 81)

Data and Analysis Actions/ Tools

SCAG has developed various tools as part of the 2% Strategy Implementation effort that can be helpful in assessing and planning for growth and development. Communities are encouraged to access these tools from SCAG. They include:

Tipping Point Analysis¹
Redevelopment strategy
Economic development strategies
Development of code amendments
Model ordinances
Public involvement
Small site workshops
Alternative scenario development and analysis
Photo simulations
Urban design solutions
Resource sharing

CROSS REFERENCE:

Many actions related to land use are also included in the Water, Air Quality, Open Space, and Transportation Chapters. Communities are encouraged to examine these other action plans for additional guidance.

Attachmetn

Preliminary Land Use Action Matrix by Local Characteristic

^{1 –} combines analysis of various regulatory actions (parking requirements, floor areas, etc) to determine the best mix to incentivize development.

SCAG 2005 RCP Preliminary Land Use Action Matrix by Local Characteristic Attachment 1

Characteristic/Location	Potential Action Tools
	Dense, mixed use downtown
City center	Focus, intensify mix use development and
Corridor	housing
Comdoi	Preserve nearby sensitive areas, existing
	neighborhoods
Corridor	Focus mixed use growth along these
	corridors with villages at transit nodes
	where the corridors intersect. Enhance
	surrounding neighborhoods with
Corridors	compatable infill.
Corridor and Station	Focus mixed use development with villages
community	at transit stops
Corridor and Station	Focus mixed use development close to
community	commuter and light rail stations
Community	Focus growth along key corridors with
Mainstreet/Transit	mixed use, village areas around transit
Corridor	nodes.
Mainstreet/Transit	38.90
Corridor	Infill underdeveloped areas
Mainstreet/Transit	AND LANGUAGE AND
Corridor	Preserve existing neighborhoods
	Focus the more dense growth on areas
	closest to highway internchange with
	village development around BRT station.
Mainstreet/Transit	Keep development in flat areas to preserve
Corridor	hills.
	Utilize flatter, lower elevation areas to
	accommodate new housing - decreasing
New neighborhood areas	s pressure for developing hillsides.
The second secon	New neighborhoods and infill in existing low
	density areas, keeping development close
	to major roads and existing towns to
	preserve rural areas and in flat areas to
New neighborhood areas	preserve hills.
	Focus infill and high-density residential in
New neighborhood areas	undeveloped areas
**************************************	Focus mixed use development to create a
Potential new transit	station village around a suggested new
station area	commuter rail station.
	Focus mixed use development close to
	core near potential future high-speed rail
	station. Encourage compatable infill in
Potential new transit	existing neighborhoods and mixed use
station area	development.

SCAG 2005 RCP Preliminary Land Use Action Matrix by Local Characteristic Attachment 1

1	Focus mixed use development to create a
Potential new transit	station village around a suggested new
station area	commuter rail station.
Rail transit station area	Mixed use and residential development
	Focused on the transit station area.
The state of the s	High density downtown development with
	intense mixed use and employment filling
Regional Center	underutilized areas.
	Intense mixed use development downtown
	and along major corridors, compatable infill
	throughout grid. Avoid developing any
Regional Center	sensitive areas.
	Create higher density villages around rail
	stations and transit nodes, focus mixed use
	in all current commercial areas, encourage
Regional Center	compatable infill in existing neighborhoods.
	Focus higher density mixed use growth in
	central area, around rail stations, and
	around airport. Preserve existing
Regional Center	neighborhoods and add compatible infill.
-	High density mixed use development, infill,
	with the highest densities along the rail line
Regional center	and the potential rapid bus line
100	Focus mixed use development to create a
and the first of the second	station village around a commuter rail
Station area	station.
Otalian and	Focus mixed use development to create a
Station area	station village around rapid bus station New development throughout area,
STATE OF THE STATE OF	protecting sensitive areas at the sensitive at the se
Station area	Industrial and mixed use area along rail
Station Area	corridor, village area around any stations
Station Area	Village growth around commuter rail
	station. Mixed use along corridors.
Station area and corridor	preserve existing neighborhoods
	Focus village development around
Station area and corridor	commuter rail station and along corridor
ATTUE.	Mixed use development near rail corridor
	and major streets, village development
Station Area and Corridor	around stations.
Station Area and Corridor	Mixed use village development
	Focus mixed use development to create a
Station areas	station village around metro station.

SCAG 2005 RCP Preliminary Land Use Action Matrix by Local Characteristic Attachment 1

I	Focus mixed use development to create a
	station village around both LRT and
Station areas	commuter rail stations.
	Focus mixed use development to create a
Station areas and	station village around a commuter rail
corridors	station.
300 A SA S	Create village around rapid bus intersection
Station areas and	and focus mixed use along the two
corridors	corridors.
	Focus mixed use and other denser
Town Center	development
Town center and station	
area.	Mixed use development around rail station.
Urban neighborhood	Medium residential with multi-family
	Focus mixed use development around rail
Urban neighborhood and	stops, compatable infill in surrounding
transit station	areas. Focus development along the rapid bus
	corridors with villages at nodes,
Urban neighborhood and	compatable infill housing in the rest of the
transit station	neighborhood.
a ciron secon	Troigh bus 1000.
Urban neighborhood and	Focus mixed use development along major
transit station	streets with village around rapid bus station
	Focus intense mixed use development in
Transfer of Automotive Control	village form around commuter rail station,
Urban neighborhood and	focus other fairly dense development along
transit station	corridors and throughout grid area.
	Focus commericial and mixed use
Urban neighborhood and	development around commercial core of
transit station	area and around transit nodes.
Urban neighborhood and	Focus mixed use and employment to rail
transit station	station areas. Focus mixed use development close to
Urban neighborhood and	rapid bus stops, preserve character of
transit station	surrounding area.
Urban neighborhood and	Focus development to flat area close to
transit station	preserve hills:
Urban neighborhood with	Infill development, mixed use where
small scale corridor	possible.
	Focus mixed development along major
	corridors while preserving existing
Urban neighborhood with	neighborhoods while adding compatable
small scale corridor	infilli